

2012 ORWEF LCS Newsletter Article - Found in Archive

Approximately thirty-six years ago a group of water-quality professionals banded together to create a cost competitive method of keeping abreast of new technologies and methods in the field of wastewater treatment. They put together the first Water Environment School held at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City.

Today the organization has grown to a point where more than 450 wastewater professionals come every year to obtain their CEUs and stay in touch with colleges in the field.

Throughout the years, individuals come and go but the purpose has remained the same, to promote the education, training, and networking of water quality and environmental professionals.

For years the Water Environment School has operated under the umbrella of the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association (PNCWA). During the last couple of years, the organization formed a non-profit corporation, the Oregon Water Education Foundation (ORWEF). Forming a separate entity simplifies paperwork, eliminates the confusion between the two organizations, and allows greater flexibility with the funds that are collected.

The funds that are collected are used primarily to cover the costs of the Water Environmental School. Any leftover funds are used to fund the John Lewis Water and Environmental Technology Scholarship, other non-profit organizations with some being held in reserve to build a stable financial base.

The upcoming Water Environment School will be held on March 27-29, 2012. We hope to see you there.